

Message Text

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DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS INFO TO ALL ARA DIPLOMATIC POSTS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PINR EC

SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON SELA PERMANENT SECRETARY,
JAIME MONCAYO GARCIA

1. JAIME MONCAYO GARCIA OF ECUADOR WAS RECENTLY ELECTED TO SERVE AS THE FIRST PERMANENT SECRETARY OF SELA (LATIN AMERICAN ECONOMIC SYSTEM). MONCAYO WAS THE GOE FINANCE MINISTER, AND THE GOE'S LEADING ECONOMIC POLICY-MAKER, FROM EARLY 1974 UNTIL SEPTEMBER OF THIS YEAR, WHEN HE DEPARTED IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE ABORTIVE COUP ATTEMPT OF SEPTEMBER 1 (AN ATTEMPT LARGELY INSPIRED BY WIDESPREAD PROTESTS IN ECUADOR AGAINST SOME OF MONCAYO'S ECONOMIC POLICIES).

2. MONCAYO WAS BORN JANUARY 9, 1940, IN QUITO AND ATTENDED LOCAL SCHOOLS, GETTING HIS UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE IN ECONOMICS AT QUITO'S CENTRAL UNIVERSITY. HE HAS BEEN UNDER SECRETARY OF LABOR (1965), UNDER SECRETARY OF INTERNAL REVENUE (1966), ECONOMIC ADVISOR TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY (1967), MEMBER OF THE GOE DELEGATION TO ECOSOC (1967), AND UNDER SECRETARY OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY (1972-3). IN THE LATTER POSITION HE LED THE GOE DELEGATION TO THE 1972 SESSION OF THE UN SEABEDS COMMITTEE, WHERE HE ESPOUSED A HARD LINE AGAINST THE US POSITION IN LAW OF THE SEA MATTERS (A FIELD IN WHICH HE HAS DEVELOPED SPECIAL
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PAGE 02 QUITO 07769 230424Z

EXPERTISE). HE HAS ALSO HELD POSITIONS WITH THE LATIN

AMERICAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION.

3. IN AN APRIL 1973 DISCUSSION OF ECUADOREAN LOS POLICY, MONCAYO STRESSED THE NEED FOR A NEW INTERNATIONAL MARITIME LAW TO PROTECT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. IN 1974, SPEAKING AS FINANCE MINISTER, HE OPINED THAT DEVELOPED COUNTRIES SHOULD NO LONGER HAVE ACCESS TO RAW MATERIALS AT UNJUSTLY LOW PRICES, AND HE HAS URGED IN THE PAST THAT THERE MUST BE A LARGE-SCALE TRANSFER OF RESOURCES FROM DEVELOPED TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

4. MONCAYO IS INTELLIGENT, CAPABLE AND PERSONABLE, ALTHOUGH AT TIMES A BIT STUFFY, VERGING ON THE IMPERIOUS. WHILE STUDYING FOR HIS MASTER'S DEGREE IN ECONOMICS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH IN 1967 HE MET HIS PRESENT WIFE, SUSAN GURIN, AN AMERICAN. WE SUSPECT THAT PRECISELY BECAUSE OF HIS TIES TO THE U.S. BY EDUCATION AND MARRIAGE HE HAS SHOWN HIMSELF TO BE RATHER NATIONALISTIC ON BILATERAL QUESTIONS. IN THE SELA FORUM HE WILL PROBABLY TAKE CARE TO SHOW NO PRO-U.S. BIAS, AND WILL BE A STAUNCH SUPPORTER OF "THIRD WORLD" PROGRAMS.

5. MONCAYO SPEAKS EXCELLENT ENGLISH.
BREWSTER

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDEES.

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